5/3/74

Dear Howard,

I was late opening the mail today, so I havejust read your 5/1 and soon I will be leaving to do the grocery shopping and to pick Lil up.

You mention a series of personal problems. The one that concerns me - the only one- is that you put the word in quotes, "love."

This tells me that it is something less and that you cannot be abrupt.

I will regard the day you do not use quotes as a good day. But that, please believe me, does not mean no problems.

Whenever you come, you will be more than welcome, we will be glad to see you, and we will regard your leaving as too soon.

I have nothing scheduled after this coming week. In that sense, your delay is good.

Thursday there is what is described as a "beer bust" for me at the local formerly and still almost all women's college. They had an assassinations seminar this year. You had been invited.

Friday the medical correspondent of the London Sunday Times is to be here.

After that and as of now I have nothing scheduled, so suit your own needs and convenience.

Lesar is away, except for a day or a day and a half, until about 5/12. We will have things to do on his return in which you will not be an intruder. I think they will interest you.

While I am not at all sure that you will find rest and relaxation here, you will get a change, and that may in itself be helfpul.

If I amy make a suggestion on the dog, which would have been a problem soon in any event, there are places that ppovide homes for them. And Penn used to have one of the country's finest vet schools. Why not try seeking a decent home for it?

If the vet school does not or cannot, ask the newspapers. Their killing is not the only alternative.

If by later in the week you mean the 9th or the 10th, I can meet a midday bus either day.

In any event, as of now your convenience is ours. Just let me know when and barring something I do not now see, I'll meet the bus.

My unsolicited view is that your thesis should come first. Get that off your back. All the other things will work themselves out, with or withour sdards. Sears do heal. If there is an applicable generality, it is that with each of these we ggow andx mature more and are better able to cope with the next set of problems.

So, the one thing of which I can assure you is that whatever the combination, it should not let you get yourself down. Life has its own way of working these things out for us, sometimes despite what we may do to make it more difficult.

We look forward to your coming, whenever it may be.

Best,